



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OCT 21 2011

OFFICE OF WATER

Dear Intergovernmental Association Colleague:

The purpose of this letter is to seek your input on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) forthcoming proposed regulatory revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). EPA is considering revisions to the LCR, a drinking water regulation that requires monitoring and treatment techniques to control lead and copper corrosion in drinking water systems. To that end, we would like to invite you to a meeting to be held at EPA Headquarters on November 15, 2011, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, in room 2339, of the EPA East Building, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC.

Consultation is requested pursuant to the terms of Executive Order 13132, entitled "Federalism," which directs Federal agencies to consult with elected State and local government officials, or their representative national organizations, when developing regulations and policies that impose substantial compliance costs on State and local governments.

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments direct EPA to review existing National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWRs) at least once every six years, and revise them, if appropriate. The LCR is a drinking water regulation that applies to all public water systems except for systems that do not regularly serve at least 25 of the same people at least 6 months of the year. The LCR requires water systems to sample households served by their system which use plumbing materials that contain lead or copper, and requires systems to take actions to reduce exposure to lead and copper from drinking water. The actions triggered by LCR monitoring results may include treatment to control lead and copper corrosion, the replacement of lead service lines, and the dissemination of educational materials to customers.

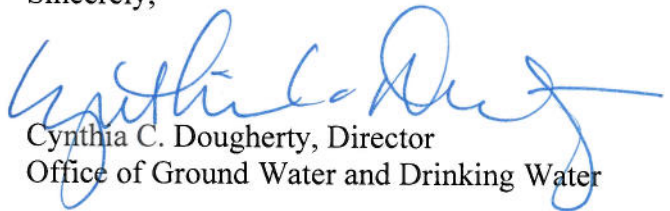
EPA is currently in the process of evaluating potential regulatory changes to the existing LCR. These may consist of changes to the sample site selection criteria for lead and copper, changes to tap sampling procedures, changes to requirements for lead service line replacement, public education requirements for copper, and modifications to corrosion control treatment requirements. EPA is requesting your input on options for the proposed regulatory revisions. Additional information and current activities related to the LCR proposed regulatory revisions process can be found at: <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/lcr/index.cfm>

Pursuant to this consultation process, EPA is contacting the National Governors' Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Council of State Governments, the National League of Cities, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Association of Counties, the International City/County Management Association, the National Association of Towns and Townships, the County Executives of America, and the Environmental Council of States to request their input on this rulemaking. Additionally, EPA is inviting the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) to participate in this meeting.

Because EPA plans to propose this rulemaking in Fall 2012, EPA is requesting your attendance at this briefing to obtain your input on the options under consideration. At the meeting, EPA will present background information on the rulemaking and will answer any questions you may have. You will have the opportunity to provide input to EPA during the meeting and also may provide written input to EPA within eight weeks after the meeting. Please let us know if you will be able to attend by contacting Andrew Hanson in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at hanson.andrew@epa.gov or 202-564-3664.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the rule, you may contact Rebecca Allen of the Office of Groundwater and Drinking Water at allen.rebeccak@epa.gov or 202-564-4689.

Sincerely,



Cynthia C. Dougherty, Director
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water